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BOARD OF EDITORS { Mr. Horace E. Smith, Chief Clerk of Weather Bureau,
Professors Henry A. Hazen, Thomas Russell, and Charles F. Marvin, and
Mr. Edward B. Garriott, in charge of Review Room.

INTRODUCTION.

This REVIEW is based on reports for February, 1892, from 2,713 regular and voluntary observers. These reports are classified as follows: 158 reports from Weather Bureau stations; 107 reports from United States Army post surgeons; 1,774 monthly reports from state weather service and voluntary observers; 30 reports from Canadian stations; 218 reports through the Cen-

tral Pacific Railway Company; 426 marine reports through the co-operation of the Hydrographic Office, Navy Department; marine reports through the "New York Herald Weather Service;" monthly reports from local weather services established in all states and territories, except Idaho, and international simultaneous observations. Trustworthy newspaper extracts and special reports have also been used.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WEATHER FOR FEBRUARY, 1892.

The month was warmer than usual, except in the Atlantic coast states south of the 40th parallel. The greatest departure above the normal temperature was reported over the northern plateau region and on the northeast slope of the Rocky Mountains, where it was 5° to 10°, and the most marked departure below the normal temperature was noted on the North Carolina coast, where it was more than 2°. The highest temperature reported by a regular station of the Weather Bureau was 89°, at Brownsville, Tex., on the 11th, and the lowest was -33°, at Saint Vincent, Minn., on the 15th. The principal cold wave of the month advanced from the Northwest to the Atlantic coast from the 13th to 16th. Frost occurred generally over the Florida Peninsula as far south as Jupiter on the 13th. In the Gulf States and Texas frost was not reported south of the 30th parallel.

PRECIPITATION.

The monthly precipitation was generally deficient. On the north Pacific and middle Gulf coasts the amount of rainfall was 4 to 5 inches less than the February average, and in western Oregon, western Washington, over a great part of the Gulf States, Tennessee, and the Florida Peninsula, and along the Atlantic coast north of the 40th parallel the deficiency was more than 2 inches. The monthly precipitation was in excess from southern California and the southern plateau region to the lower Missouri valley, over parts of the Lake region and extreme north-central valleys, and at stations on the Virginia and North Carolina coasts. The greatest excess was noted at Hatteras, N. C., and Leavenworth, Kans., where it was more than 2 inches. At stations in eastern Texas, central Missouri, southeastern Kansas, and western

Colorado the monthly precipitation was the greatest, and on the middle Gulf coast, in northern Arkansas, and at Bandon, Oregon, and Tatoosh Island, Wash., it was the least ever reported for February. An unusual depth of snow was reported in the Adirondack Mountains, New York. In nearly all parts of Iowa the snowfall was insufficient to protect crops, and wheat and other grains were injured. Heavy snow fell in central Arizona and northern New Mexico the early part of the month. A heavy fall of snow occurred generally over New York and New England on the 11th and 12th.

STORMS.

Northerly gales prevailed along the middle Atlantic and North Carolina coasts on the 5th. On the 6th destructive thunderstorms occurred in Missouri and Arkansas. A local storm damaged property to the extent of about \$2,500 in Wood county, Ohio, on the 7th. Gales attended a heavy snow and rain storm over the middle Atlantic and New England states during the 11th and 12th. During a thunderstorm at Palestine, Tex., on the 19th damage was caused by heavy rain.

RIVERS.

Ice in the Saint Clair River broke up the early part of the month. An unusually heavy ice gorge in the Allegheny River at Red Bank broke on the 20th. A channel opened in the ice in the Mississippi River at La Crosse, Wis., on the 26th. At Davenport, Iowa, ice ran out on the 4th. The Missouri River continued frozen at Pierre, S. Dak.

AUORAS.

Unusually brilliant auroral displays over an exceptionally large region of visibility occurred on the 13th.

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE (expressed in inches and hundredths).

The distribution of mean atmospheric pressure for February, 1892, as determined from observations taken daily at 8 a. m. and 8 p. m. (75th meridian time), is shown on Chart II by isobars.

In February the mean pressure is usually highest over the middle plateau region, where it rises above 30.20 about the Great Salt Lake region in Utah. In districts east of the Mississippi and south of the Ohio rivers it is generally above

30.15. The normal pressure for February is lowest over Newfoundland, where it is below 29.90, and it is below 30.00 over the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, eastern Nova Scotia, and on the Pacific coast north of Washington. There is usually a decrease of mean pressure over the interior and southern districts, and an increase of pressure in the northeast and northwest districts and over the British Possessions.

The distribution of mean pressure in February, 1892, was